

FISCAL NOTE

HB 4027 - SB 4063

March 3, 2008

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires five hours of continuing education for new and renewing notaries. Authorizes notaries to perform electronic notarizations. Creates a new regulatory infrastructure within the Department of State relative to notaries.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Revenue – Less than \$20,000/One-Time
Increase State Expenditures - \$6,100/One-Time
\$246,700/Recurring

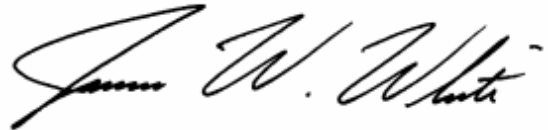
Assumptions:

- There are approximately 24,000 individuals elected or reelected each year to a four-year term by county legislative bodies to the position of notary.
- There are approximately 96,000 active notaries at any given time.
- The Secretary of State (SOS) currently has no regulatory duties relative to notaries or their functions. Enactment of the bill will require the creation of a new regulatory infrastructure within the Department of State.
- Requires the SOS to approve notary vendors and notary instructors and authorizes the SOS to charge a one-time fee for such approvals.
- Requires the SOS to approve electronic notary solution providers before authorizing any electronic notary seals or electronic signatures to notaries. Updates and revisions of the provider's electronic notarization system must also be approved by the SOS.
- According to the SOS, two additional staff positions would be needed due to the increased workload and to handle the regulatory functions of these individuals/entities.
- In addition, the filing and maintaining of exemplars of the electronic notary signature and the electronic notary seal for every subscribing notary would require one additional filing officer in the SOS.
- Increased revenue from administrative fees established for the applications of notary public vendors and notary instructors is estimated to be less than \$20,000 due to the limited number of such individuals/entities and the one-time nature of the applications.

- Recurring costs for three additional staff positions in the SOS are estimated to be \$200,950 for salaries and benefits for one staff attorney (\$106,400), one ASA3 (\$61,500), and one filing officer (\$33,050).
- Recurring operational costs are estimated to be \$45,700.
- One-time costs of \$6,072 for three workstations ($\$1,024 \times 3 = \$3,072$) and one scanner (\$3,000).

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" and last name "White" clearly legible.

James W. White, Executive Director

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